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2352	7590	12/15/2006	EXAMINER	
OSTROLENK FABER GERB & SOFFEN 1180 AVENUE OF THE AMERICAS NEW YORK, NY 100368403			ARAQUE JR, GERARDO	
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			3629	

DATE MAILED: 12/15/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/040,399	HAN, HYUNG NAM
	Examiner Gerardo Araque Jr.	Art Unit 3629

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 04 October 2006.
- 2a) This action is FINAL.                            2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1,2,4-21,23,24 and 26 is/are pending in the application.
  - 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1,2,4-21,23,24 and 26 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:
    1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

## DETAILED ACTION

### ***Priority***

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

2. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

3. **Claim 26** is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

4. The applicant discloses a database, transmitting facility, and a communication establishing facility associated with the system. However, as currently stated the applicant has not positively claimed the disclosed structures. Further still, the examiner is unsure as to what the applicant means by stating, "associated." If the applicant were claiming a system, the said structures would already be part of the system. Currently, the examiner is reading the structures as not being part of the claimed system, but structures outside the claimed system.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. **Claims 1 – 2, 4 and 8 – 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Adamson (US Patent 5,717,863) in view of Klug (US Patent 6,823,327) in further view of Net2Phone (<http://web.archive.org/web/20000301065632/www.net2phone.com/default.htm>).**

7. In regards to **claim 1**, Adamson discloses a method of providing a call connection between a first and second party using a system connected to at least a telecommunication network of a PSTN (**Figure 1, Col. 3 L. 34 – 38**), mobile telecommunication network (**wherein if the first party were to provide a cell phone number it would have been obvious that a mobile telecommunication network is being used**), and the Internet (**Col. 2 L. 20 – 22**). The method comprising:

- the system providing to a first client computer with a business card making facility (**Col. 4 L. 17 – 27**);
- the first computer requesting the system to issue the business card which includes a type of number of the first party (**Col. 4 L. 17 – 27**) and call buttons corresponding to phone numbers (**Col. 1 L. 34 – 38**);
- a database to store a business card with ID numbers assigned by the system with respect to call buttons (**Col. 1 L. 34 – 38**) and issuing a business card (**Col. 2 L. 31 – 40**), with call buttons with a request function for connection via the system (**Col. 4 L. 35 – 44**) with corresponding phone numbers;
- the system then transmitting the business cards to others designated by the first party via the Internet (**Col. 2 L. 26 – 31**);

- the system providing to the second computer a phone number inputting window when the second client computer opens the business card and accessing the system (**Col. 1 L. 21 – 33**);
- the second computer requesting the system to make a call connection between the first party and the second party (**Col. 6 L. 15 – 19; Col. 8 L. 18 – 21**) by clicking call buttons by the second party while providing the ID number of the call button and the second party's call connection information inputted (**Col. 5 L. 41 – 55; Col. 8 L. 28 – 31**); and
- the system searching the first party's number corresponding to the ID number of the call button provided by the second client computer (**inherent**) via the internet and telecommunication network when the first and second party respond to the call connection attempted by the dialing (**inherent**), and the call connection service being provided by the system through the medium of the business card.

Adamson, however, fails to provide a web page to create business cards, that the first party provides their phone number as their means of communication, providing a URL on the business cards as a means to connect to the system, and the first party transmitting the business cards to other parties by e-mail.

In regards to dispersing data by logging onto a web site and having the website disperse the information inputted by the first party, Klug discloses a registration information processing system for the web that automates the user registration process at web sites. The user utilizes this web site as a repository for registration information

so that the user can request this registration information to be transmitted (**Klug Col. 2 – 3**). Despite the fact that Klug discloses that the information is used as a means to automate registration at other websites designated by the user, Klug further discloses that it is old and well known in the art to use a web site as a means of disseminating information to other destinations designated by the user and that the system assigns a user with an ID and optional password. Further still, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art using the teachings of Klug that there are other means of inputting the destination information other than a web site address, such as e-mail. Furthermore, it is also old and well known in the art that when sending e-mail messages using an online service that URL information is also included in a message as a means of advertisement for the web site, which would result in recipient of the e-mail to click on the URL in order to access the online system.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Adamson in view of the teachings to Klug to include a web page as a means of exchanging business cards over the internet and having the information transmitted to e-mail addresses designated by the user. Consequently, it would have been also obvious to one skilled in the art that the business card creation means disclosed by Adamson would also have to be included on the web site in order to properly create and disseminate the business cards to their designated locations.

However, the combination of Adamson and Klug fails to disclose the implementation of PC-phone communication. However, Net2Phone discloses an online system that allows a user to make PC-phone communication

(<http://web.archive.org/web/20000301065632/www.net2phone.com/default.htm>).

Although, Adamson only discloses PC-PC communication, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art that this is not the only means of communication using the Internet given that not everyone has access to the Internet.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the combination of Adamson and Klug in view of the teachings of Net2Phone that there are other means of communication over the Internet, such as PC-phone, and that including a user's phone number on the business cards, as disclosed by Adamson, as a means of communicating with the user would have been obvious.

8. In regards to **claim 2**, Adamson further discloses that the connection addresses that are kept in the address record would contain the various types of connections that a PC can support (**Adamson Column 5 Lines 41 – 49**).

9. In regards to **claim 3**, applicant has canceled the claim.

10. In regards to **claim 4**, Klug discloses that the user's registration information is stored and accessible at the registrar web site (**Klug Column 5 Lines 30 – 33**).

Moreover, the information can then be used to automatically register a user to other websites indicated by the user (**Column 5 Lines 65 – 67, Column 6 Lines 1 – 2**).

11. In regards to **claim 8**, Adamson discloses further comprising the step of, when a call connection, tried by the system, to the phone number of the first party corresponding to the call button clicked by the second party is not available, the system

switching the trial of the call connection to any other phone number in the received we business card (**Col. 8 Line 46 – Col. 9 Line 20**).

12. In regards to **claim 9**, Adamson discloses that the application would allow someone to add in the same information that a paper business card would have, such as name, phone number, network address, logo, etc. (**Adamson Column 6 Lines 51 – 67**).

13. In regards to **claim 10**, it is well known in the art to provide a template, or samples, and inserting information into these templates. An example of such a concept is the template wizard that Microsoft Office offers. One would open up a new office document and be presented with several templates to choose from and once selected will be prompted to input necessary information, such as the input windows that Adamson discloses (**Adamson Column 7 Lines 44 – 61**). Once the information is inputted it, the wizard will then insert the inputted information in the respected fields within the template.

14. In regards to **claims 11**, Adamson discloses in response to a request of the first client computer, the system providing the first client computer with an existing web business card, designated by the first party, in the database and updating the existing web business card with a modified we business card modified by the first party and provided by the first client computer (**Col. 2 L. 33 – 38**).

15. In regards to **claims 12**, Adamson and Klug et al., in combination, discloses, "Address records of corporate address books 202a – 202c are automatically created/updated by the bizcard create and edit functions of the conferencing

applications whenever bizcards are created/updated, to be described fully below. Furthermore, corporate address books 202a – 202c are synchronized with each other automatically by file drivers included on servers 18a – 18c (**Column 5 Lines 19 – 25**).” Moreover, the information provided by the user can then be later accessed using an ID on a web page (**Column 8 Lines 1 – 8**).

16. In regards to **claim 13**, Adamson and Klug et al., in combination, disclose a storage device located on a PC that will store the bizcards (user registration information) with the address records and be made available for browsing on a web page after an ID is inputted (**Adamson Column 4 Lines 10 – 16 Klug Column 8 Lines 1 – 8**). A conferencing application in turn will include, “...functions for modeling the exchange of business cards among the conference participants... (**Adamson Column 4 Lines 17 – 19**).”

17. **Claim 5** is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Adamson (US Patent 5,717,863)** in view of **Klug (US Patent 6,823,327)** in further view of **Net2Phone**

(<http://web.archive.org/web/20000301065632/www.net2phone.com/default.htm>) and in further view of **H. Oden (US Patent 3,510,594)**.

18. Adamson et al., Klug, and Net2Phone are discussed above, which fail to teach calculating a calling fee for a conference call. Oden teaches that it is old and well known to use a, “...circuit arrangement for automatic fee assessment among a plurality of subscribers participating in a conference call... (Column 3 Claim 1).”

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention in view of the teachings of Oden to modify the combination of Adamson et al., Klug, and Net2Phone to include a circuit arrangement for automatic fee assessment.

19. **Claims 6 and 7** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Adamson et al., Klug et al., Net2Phone and Oden** as applied to claim 5 above, and further in view of **Gainsboro (US Patent 5,926,533)**.

20. Gainsboro discloses that it is old and well known to use a software program that supports,

“...(1) establishment and configuration of individual inmate data and monetary accounts;  
(2) checking of inmate debit (i.e. paid-in-advance) accounts;...  
(4) real-time monitoring of inmate telephone calls and alerts...along with the ability to cut off inmate calls individually and globally;  
(5) storing and reporting of detailed inmate call details and account information;... (Column 11 Lines 41 – 46).”

Moreover, it is also old and well known of the existence that such payment plans/methods in order to control phone usage, such as calling cards (**see also Net2Phone**).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention in view of the teachings of Gainsboro to modify the combination of Adamson et al., Klug et al., and Oden as discussed in claim 5 to include a software program that monitors paid-in-advance accounts with the ability to cut off calls.

21. **Claims 14 – 18, 21, 23 – 24, and 26** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Adamson (US Patent 5,717,863) in view of Klug (US Patent

6,823,327) and in further view of **Net2Phone**  
(<http://web.archive.org/web/20000301065632/www.net2phone.com/default.htm>).

22. In regard to **claims 14 and 26**, Adamson discloses a network system for the use of conferencing between two parties (**Adamson Column 5 Lines 45 – 49**). It is important to note that a server connected to a small network is the same as connecting to the Internet, in that a server connecting to the Internet is connecting to an even larger network (Newton's Telecom Dictionary 20<sup>th</sup> Edition Pages 433 – 435).

Adamson also discloses a conference manager for initiating and accepting conference calls through the use of the network. Furthermore, the manager manages the conferences and the applications associated with the conference (**Adamson Column 6 Lines 12 – 19**).

Adamson discloses storage devices found on a PC and on a server for the storing of address books and the like (**Adamson Column 4 Lines 10 – 16**).

Adamson discloses an application capable of creating and editing an electronic business card (bizcards) (**Adamson Column 7 Lines 3 – 8**). The bizcards hold the same information as a paper business card can with the added bonus of allowing someone to make a call to a second party. The call is then carried out with the use of a conference manager that Adamson discloses above. The connection that is made is dependant on what connection information was given on the cards as well as what is supported by a PC (**Column 5 Lines 41- 49**).

Furthermore, Adamson discloses that the information that stores the bizcards can be updated as the need arises and that the update is carried out to other areas that are needed (**Column 4 Lines 26 – 33**).

Adamson, however, fails to provide a web page to create business cards, that the first party provides their phone number as their means of communication, providing a URL on the business cards as a means to connect to the system, and the first party transmitting the business cards to other parties by e-mail.

In regards to dispersing data by logging onto a web site and having the website disperse the information inputted by the first party, Klug discloses a registration information processing system for the web that automates the user registration process at web sites. The user utilizes this web site as a repository for registration information so that the user can request this registration information to be transmitted (**Klug Col. 2 – 3**). Despite the fact that Klug discloses that the information is used as a means to automate registration at other websites designated by the user, Klug further discloses that it is old and well known in the art to use a web site as a means of disseminating information to other destinations designated by the user and that the system assigns a user with an ID and optional password. Further still, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art using the teachings of Klug that there are other means of inputting the destination information other than a web site address, such as e-mail. Furthermore, it is also old and well known in the art that when sending e-mail messages using an online service that URL information is also included in a message as a means of

advertisement for the web site, which would result in recipient of the e-mail to click on the URL in order to access the online system.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Adamson in view of the teachings to Klug to include a web page as a means of exchanging business cards over the internet and having the information transmitted to e-mail addresses designated by the user. Consequently, it would have been also obvious to one skilled in the art that the business card creation means disclosed by Adamson would also have to be included on the web site in order to properly create and disseminate the business cards to their designated locations.

However, the combination of Adamson and Klug fails to disclose the implementation of PC-phone communication. However, Net2Phone discloses an online system that allows a user to make PC-phone communication (<http://web.archive.org/web/20000301065632/www.net2phone.com/default.htm>), which would also obviously include a trunk gateway. Although, Adamson only discloses PC-PC communication, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art that this is not the only means of communication using the Internet given that not everyone has access to the Internet.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the combination of Adamson and Klug in view of the teachings of Net2Phone that there are other means of communication over the Internet, such as PC-phone, and that including a user's phone number on the business cards, as

disclosed by Adamson, as a means of communicating with the user would have been obvious.

23. In regard to **claims 15 and 16**, Adamson further discloses that the connection addresses that are kept in the address record would contain the various types of connections that a PC can support (**Adamson Column 5 Lines 41 – 49**).

24. In regards to **claim 17**, it is well known in the art to provide services through a web page that a user can access. Such examples were discussed above.

Furthermore, Adamson discloses an application that allows a user to create an electronic business card, as well as edit the content of existing electronic business cards (**Adamson Column 2 Lines 26 – 31, Column 7 Lines 3 – 4**).

25. In regards to **claim 18**, it is well known in the art to provide a template, or samples, and inserting information into these templates. An example of such a concept is the template wizard that Microsoft Office offers. One would open up a new office document and be presented with several templates to choose from and once selected will be prompted to input necessary information, such as the input windows that Adamson discloses (**Column 7 Lines 44 – 61**). Once the information is inputted it, the wizard will then insert the inputted information in the respected fields within the template.

26. In regards to **claim 21**, Adamson and Klug et al., in combination, disclose a storage device located on a PC and a server that will store the bizcards with the address records and be made available for browsing (**Adamson Column 7 Lines 44 – 46**). A conferencing application in turn will include, "...functions for modeling the

exchange of business cards among the conference participants... (**Adamson Column 4 Lines 17 – 19**).” Moreover, the information on the bizcard can also contain not only calling information, but also links that may be pertinent to the usage of the cards, such as the web page where the user’s information is stored on (**Klug Column 5 Lines 30 – 33**).

27. In regards to **claim 22**, applicant has canceled the claim.
28. In regards to **claim 23**, Adamson and Klug et al., in combination, discloses in Figure 1 that servers 18a - 18c represent the several different types of servers that are known in the art (Adamson Column 4 Lines 64 – 66). Moreover, a gateway would, inherently, be included in the configuration of a network system connected to the Internet in order to access a web page. Furthermore, a router is well known in the art to be used in a network because of its ability to direct information to a specific destination (Hargrave’s Communications Dictionary <http://www.xreferplus.com/entry/2721667>). This with Adamson et al.’s conference manager allows for the connection between two parties to be established. The fact that the connection is between a PC – PC and a PC – telephone has already been discussed above.
29. In regards to **claim 24**, Adamson discloses, “Address records of corporate address books 202a – 202c are automatically created/updated by the bizcard create and edit functions of the conferencing applications whenever bizcards are created/updated, to be described fully below. Furthermore, corporate address books 202a – 202c are synchronized with each other automatically by file drivers included on servers 18a – 18c (Column 5 Lines 19 – 25).”

30. **In regards to claim 25, applicant has canceled the claim**

31. **Claim 19 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Adamson (US Patent 5,717,863) in view of Klug (US Patent 6,823,327) in further view of Net2Phone**

**(<http://web.archive.org/web/20000301065632/www.net2phone.com/default.htm>)**  
and in further view of H. Oden (US Patent 3,510,594).

32. **In regards to claim 19, Adamson et al., and Klug are discussed above.**  
Adamson and Klug fail to teach calculating a calling fee for a conference call. Oden teaches a, "...circuit arrangement for automatic fee assessment among a plurality of subscribers participating in a conference call..." (Column 3 Claim 1)." Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention in view of the teachings of Oden to modify the combination of Adamson and Klug to include a circuit arrangement for automatic fee assessment.

33. **Claim 20 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Adamson et al., Klug et al., Net2Phone and Oden as applied to claim 19 above, and further in view of Gainsboro (US Patent 5,926,533).**

34. **In regards to claim 20, Adamson, Klug, Net2Phone and Oden are discussed above. Gainsboro discloses a software program that supports,**  
"...(1) establishment and configuration of individual inmate data and monetary accounts;  
(2) checking of inmate debit (i.e. paid-in-advance) accounts;...  
(4) real-time monitoring of inmate telephone calls and alerts...along with the ability to cut off inmate calls individually and globally;  
(5) storing and reporting of detailed inmate call details and account information;... (Column 11 Lines 41 – 46)." .

35. Gainsboro discloses that it is old and well known to use a software program that supports,

"...(1) establishment and configuration of individual inmate data and monetary accounts;  
(2) checking of inmate debit (i.e. paid-in-advance) accounts;...  
(4) real-time monitoring of inmate telephone calls and alerts...along with the ability to cut off inmate calls individually and globally;  
(5) storing and reporting of detailed inmate call details and account information;... (Column 11 Lines 41 – 46)."

Moreover, it is also old and well known of the existence that such payment plans/methods in order to control phone usage, such as calling cards (**see also Net2Phone**).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention in view of the teachings of Gainsboro to modify the combination of Adamson et al., Klug et al., and Oden as discussed in claim 5 to include a software program that monitors paid-in-advance accounts with the ability to cut off calls.

#### ***Response to Arguments***

36. Applicant's arguments filed 10/4/2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

37. **Cancellation of claims 3, 22, and 25 are acknowledged.**

38. Objection made towards the abstract has been withdrawn due to amendments made on 7/03/06.

39. Rejections made under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, toward claims 1 – 13, specifically claims 1 and 22 – 23, are withdrawn due to amendments made on 7/03/06.

#### **Regarding claims 1 – 13**

40. The examiner has responded to applicant's amendments above and, consequently, responded to all arguments made by the applicant.

**Regarding claims 14 – 26**

41. In response to applicant's argument regarding the individual functions of the web server, call server and database server, a recitation of the intended use of the claimed invention must result in a structural difference between the claimed invention and the prior art in order to patentably distinguish the claimed invention from the prior art. If the prior art structure is capable of performing the intended use, then it meets the claim. The examiner has also addressed all arguments made by the applicant above in response to the amendments the applicant has made.

***Conclusion***

42. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

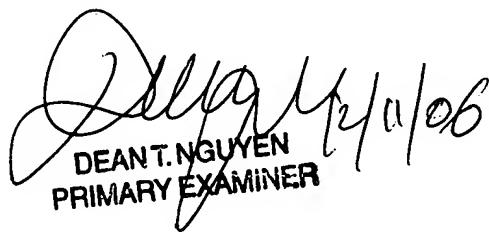
the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

43. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gerardo Araque Jr. whose telephone number is (571)272-3747. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 8:30AM - 4:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Weiss can be reached on (571) 272-6812. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

GA  
12/7/06

  
DEAN T. NGUYEN  
PRIMARY EXAMINER